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THE BOOM CONTINUED IN 1956. In 1956, nearly all sections of the Austrian economy recorded improvements over their 1955 levels and in many cases set new records, according to the findings of the Austrian Institute for Economic Research. Industrial production rose by 4 per cent and the number of persons employed by 3 per cent. Compared with 1955, retail sales increased six percent, exports 13 per cent and foreign tourist trade 19 per cent. It is true, however, that the rate and intensity of increase have fallen off appreciably. But this softening trend was compensated by a 299-million-schilling surplus in the current balance of payments. In 1955, the balance reflected a 3.1-billion-schilling deficit.

On the debit side of the ledger, difficulties were particularly apparent in the power industry. Domestic power capacity was increased by only one per cent in 1956. Crude oil production dropped by 7 per cent and coal production was increased by only 1 per cent. Only because water supply conditions were exceptionally good was it possible to increase hydroelectric power production by 10 per cent and to avoid a drop in the total domestic power supply. (Cont'd on page 2)

FEDERAL INCOME UP. In some respects, the Federal financial picture in 1956 was much more favorable than originally estimated in the budget for that year. Although expenditures under the regular budget totalled 29.3 billion schillings, or over 2 billion schillings more than provided in the budget estimate, receipts were more than 3.9 billion schillings in excess of the amounts estimated, representing a total of nearly 30 billion schilling (one dollar equals 26 schillings—Ed.). The situation with respect to the special budget was somewhat less favorable, expenditures having exceeded estimates by 704 million schillings, to reach a total of nearly 1.7 billion. Receipts under the special budget, for which no estimate had been made, totalled 301 million schillings. Thus, the deficit in the special budget was 1.37 billion schillings, i.e. 400 million more than estimated. However, the over-all deficit of the 1956 budget as a whole was only 725 million schillings, or 1.45 billion less than provided.

In its explanation of these developments, the Ministry of Finance pointed out, in part, that of the excess expenditures under the special budget, one-third was represented by personnel costs (increases in the salaries of civil servants) and two-thirds by material costs.

The fact that receipts were nearly 4 billion schillings in excess of the estimate was due primarily to the high level of taxable income.

HURDES, KAMITZ IN CONFERENCE WITH ASST. SECRETARY HERTER. During their stay in the U.S., President Hurdes of the Austrian Parliament and Austrian Finance Minister Kamitz conferred with Christian Herter, Assistant Secretary of State, on various Austrian-American problems. Among the subjects discussed were economic questions and the problem of the Hungarian refugees.

DR. HURDES VISITOR IN U.S. SENATE. At the invitation of the State Department, Dr. Hurdes also attended a recent meeting of the United States Senate. Shortly after Dr. Hurdes entered the Chamber, Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson interrupted the proceedings and addressed a cordial welcome to the Austrian visitor. Senator Johnson said it was a pleasure to welcome the Parliamentary leader of a country which had held the ideals of liberty so high. He paid tribute to Austria's great reconstruction work since the end of World War Two and wished the Austrian people a happy and successful future.

UNWELCOME. The Austrian authorities have refused to grant an entry permit to a member of the Kadar government, Minister of State Marosan, who intended to address a Vienna Communist party congress. An official statement explained that it does not appear appertune at the present juncture for a member of the Hungarian government to visit Austria.

HUNGARY ERECTS ROAD BARRIERS. Road barriers have been erected on Hungarian territory at several points near the Austrian frontier, e.g. near St. Margareten on the highway to Oedenburg and Neckenmarkt, on the highway to Harkau. The roads have been dug up or closed off with barricades which are generally guarded by three men. There has also been an increase in patrol activity. The Hungarian soldiers on duty at these points wear steel helmets and official border stations fly red and red-white-green flags. In the vicinity of St. Githard and Nickelsdorf, the Hungarians have set up machine-gun posts.

UN COMMITTEE ON HUNGARY VISITS AUSTRIA. The United Nations Special Committee on Hungary held seven sessions in Vienna last month when 29 witnesses were heard. The members of the committee departed for Geneva by way of London on March 28.

Boom Continued (Continued from page 1)

Economic development was also hampered by shifts in demand and by credit restrictions: although investment activity remained at a high level, it did not increase any further. It was due only to good export conditions for iron, steel and machinery that production in capital goods industries rose another 4 per cent. The vehicular industry suffered a setback.

Less Credit

Conditions on the money and capital market were rather tight, although the money in circulation increased by 5 per cent as a result of the surplus in the current balance of payments and capital imports in the amount of 2.2 billion schillings. However, this increase did not contribute to the fluidity of the money market or to an activation of credit grants, since the increase in wages and salaries led to an intensified issuance of banknotes from the banking system.

Total credit granted by the banking system in 1956 amounted to 3.4 billion schillings, or 2.3 billion less than in 1955. The increase in savings deposits by 2,520 million schillings and in term deposits by 263 million, plus the issue of mortgage bonds and municipal bonds (249 million schillings) fell short of credit loaned by only 0.4 billion schillings.

However, the restriction in economic growth on the credit and investment side was offset by powerful expansionary tendencies on the consumer and export side. As a result of higher income for the population as a whole, private consumption rose by 5 billion to a total of 71 billion schillings. This increase gave a strong impetus to consumer goods production and to commerce.

Export Value Close to a Billion Dollars

After the increase in domestic consumption, exports took second place in the favorable economic situation. The value of exports rose by 22 per cent to a total of 22.1 billion schillings. On the other hand, the rate of increase for imports -- which cost 25.3 billion schillings -- showed a sharp decrease. This development led to an improvement in the critical situation with respect to the balance of trade, the deficit in which fell from 4.9 billion schillings in 1955 to 3.2 billion in 1956.

Along with exports, the tourist trade made a decisive contribution to the improvement in the foreign-currency situation, inasmuch as receipts from this source were 3 billion schillings.

Variable harvests lead to a decrease in the gross value of over-all agricultural production from 109.9 in 1955 to 108.1 (with 1937 taken as 100). In the forestry section, fellings were limited by 11 per cent to 10.1 million cubic meters.

The increase in prices and wages was in striking contrast to the decline in real business expansion during 1956. The increased cost of domestic and foreign raw materials, higher freight costs, rising fuel prices and wage increases drove the prices of numerous goods and services to higher levels. On the average, the cost of living index was 3.5 per cent higher than in 1955.

Social Product 3.3 Per Cent Higher

It is noteworthy that, even at this early stage, the Institute for Economic Research is publishing preliminary

calculations and estimates concerning Austrian national income for fiscal 1956. Its figures show that in 1956, the Austrian national economy produced goods and services worth 109.5 billion schillings. The real increase in the Austrian social product was 3.3 per cent. There has been a shift in the national income in terms of the recipients of income: for the first time since 1953, the income of non-independent earners was higher than that of self-employed businessmen. The proportion of wages and salaries rose from 58.1 per cent of the national income in 1955 to 60.3 per cent in 1956.

1956 BUDGET RETURNS. The table below shows in column I the Projected Budget for 1956 and in column II the difference between the Projected Budget and the Estimated Balance at the end of Fiscal 1956.

	I	II
REGULAR BUDGET*		
Expenditures	29,327	+ 2,083
Revenue	29,969	+ 3,934
Surplus	642	+ 1,851
SPECIAL BUDGET		
Expenditure	1,668	+ 704
Revenue	301	+ 301
Deficit	1,367	+ 403

TOTAL BUDGETARY DEFICIT 725 - 1,488

* In millions of schillings; 26 schillings to 1 Dollar.

HIGHER RECEIPTS BOOST INVESTMENTS. The principal reason that tax receipts were 1.4 billion schillings higher than originally estimated was the substantial increase in revenue from direct taxation, resulting from the favorable economic situation and various increases in wages and salaries. The economic situation was also responsible for the higher yields in business taxes, sales taxes, customs duties and taxes on consumer articles. Earlier investment programs and an increase in efficiency studies, especially in nationalized enterprises, resulted in higher receipts from corporation and business taxes. On the other hand, income tax receipts fell below the estimated level.

Approximately 300 million out of the 700 million schillings of additional expenditures under the special budget are covered by equivalent additional income from ERP releases which were not taken into account in estimating the budget. These releases were used for aid to agriculture and forestry and for the promotion of tourist activity (in the amount of approximately 165 million schillings) and loans to large and small industry (in the amount of 135 million schillings). The remaining 400 million schillings in additional expenditure went for investment in the railroad and postal system (180 million), highway construction (160 million) and the Federal theaters (25 million). The deficit of nearly 1.37 billion schillings in the special budget was financed in part from the surplus under the regular budget and in part from loan transactions and cash reserves.

DECORATIONS AWARDED TO ENVOY PEINSIPP AND BUDAPEST STAFF MEMBERS. Foreign Minister Leopold Figl presented Envoy Walter Peinsipp and staff members of the Austrian Embassy in Budapest with the decorations which had been awarded them recently. In his address, the Foreign Minister said that the Embassy staff at Budapest had "risked life and health" in order to lend assistance to others. He said that the Austrian government and people were proud of the officials whom they were now distinguishing because they had done honor to Austria's name during a very difficult period. In Mr. Figl's words: their deeds "as men and Christians" cannot be considered a violation of neutrality; Envoy Peinsipp and his staff exemplified the spirit of Austrian neutrality by rendering a humanitarian service which was never colored by their political convictions.

AUSTRIA TO PRESIDE AT ICEM MEETING. The Minister of the Interior has informed the Cabinet that a general meeting of the ICEM (Interstate Committee for European Migration) will be held in Geneva this month. The organization requested that Austria assume the chairmanship of this meeting and that it propose a Chairman. The Cabinet decided to comply with the request and nominated Dr. Kurt Seidler of the Ministry of the Interior to assume the function.

CZECH DIPLOMAT EXPELLED FROM AUSTRIA. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs submitted a note to the Czech Embassy on March 16, declaring that it considered Legation Secretary Jiri Stejskal persona non grata and stating that he was to leave within three days. (Jiri Stejskal had been implicated by members of an espionage ring engaged, among other activities, in procuring lists of Hungarian refugees.)

REFUGEES FROM YUGOSLAVIA. In 1956, a total of 1,910 refugees entered Carinthia from Yugoslavia (949 in 1955). In this group there were 1,727 men, 182 women and 1 child. Only 74 of them are genuine political refugees. The great majority came in search of better economic conditions and hoped to be able to emigrate overseas.

Many of the refugees said that they had faced the dangers of flight because there was no opportunity for them to meet members of their families in Austria, in other European countries or overseas by obtaining regular passports. They now hope that international organizations will help them to find a permanent home.

PLANE FOR THE AUSTRIAN AIR FORCE. As a first delivery earmarked for training purposes, three de Havilland Vampire jets were handed over to the Austrian airforce by the British firm's representative, Peter de Havilland in ceremonies at the Vienna Airport. Also in attendance at Schwechat was the British military attache, Colonel J. Packard

UNEMPLOYMENT DOWN. According to the latest reports, there were a total of 193,858 job-seekers registered at Austrian employment offices as of mid-March 1957: of this number 122,236 were men and 71,622 women. Compared with the end of February 1957, the total unemployment figure had dropped by 17,988. The figure for this March was 23,121 lower than in mid-March 1956. Employment figures for Vienna (706,500 in February) are the highest ever recorded for that time of the year.

1.2 MILLION STRIKE HOURS. According to strike statistics issued by the Austrian Trade Union Federation, strikes were in progress for a total of 1,227,292 working hours in 1956 with a total of 43,249 workers participating. The average striking time per worker was therefore approx. 28½ hours. In 1955, striking time was 464,167 hours and in 1954, 410,508 hours. The principal participants in 1956 strikes were the building and lumber workers, the food and luxury-food workers and the metal and mining workers.

SLIGHT EPU DEFICIT. At the end of February, Austria had a deficit of 0.7 million dollars in the European Payments Union, as against a deficit of 10.3 million in January. In spite of the accounting deficits of recent months, Austria still has a credit balance of 1.9 million dollars in the EPU. (Most of Austria's debit balances toward other EPU countries were adjusted bilaterally through the purchase of EPU currencies.)

VIENNA SPRING FAIR A SUCCESS. The 1957 Spring Fair was a marked success. Approximately 600,000 persons from 61 different countries visited the fair grounds. The number of business transactions concluded was substantially above the average. Austrian companies are endeavoring to modernize their techniques in order to get set for the prospective competitive situation in a common European market. Also, orders and sales registered by capital goods industries show that investments favored by recent legislative measures are already having an effect. Thus, it was sales in the field of machinery which predominated at the industrial fair.

EXPANDING TRADE OPPORTUNITIES WITH SOUTH AMERICA. Recently compiled reports on Austria's trade relations with South America reveal a favorable trend as borne out by the following breakdown: exports to Argentina rose from 285.5 million schillings in 1954 to 366.8 million in 1955, to Peru from 17.3 million in 1954 to 23.4 million in 1955, to Uruguay from 0.7 million dollars in 1954 to 0.9 million in 1955, to Chile from 18.1 million pesos in 1954 to 35.0 million pesos in 1955. On the other hand, exports to Brazil, Ecuador and Paraguay decreased.

The Austrian Federal Chamber of Commerce took advantage of the 1957 Vienna Spring Fair to arrange the usual foreign trade conference but this year trade with South America was the pivotal theme of the Fair. Austrian trade delegates from the individual South American countries convened for the occasion and unanimously agreed that vast opportunities exist for trade expansion in this area.

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AUSTRIAN STEEL OUTPUT UP 60% IN FOUR YEARS. The European Coal and Steel Community has issued a report on the organization's accomplishments during the four years of its existence. The report is of interest as it concerns Austria because it shows that in industries which in the member-countries of the Community are mainly privately owned capacity is lower than in the corresponding Austrian industries, which are nationalized. For instance, steel production in the Community states rose by 35 per cent during the four years in question, but in Austria it rose 61 per cent. This noteworthy increased output by Austrian steel plants is due primarily to the extensive investment program which has been carried out by industry and government since nationalization in 1946.

RISE IN IRON ORE CONSUMPTION. During 1956, Austria imported approximately 1,010,500 tons of iron ore and concentrates, representing a value of 430.3 million schillings. In terms of volume, this import was approximately 7 per cent higher than that for 1955. Of this amount, 284,300 tons came from West Germany, 162,100 tons from Norway, 119,700 tons from Sweden and 118,400 tons from Algeria. Austrian iron ore exports in 1956 amounted to 45,500 tons, worth 15.3 million schillings (1 dollar equals approximately 25 schillings - Ed.). On a volume basis, exports were 35.9% higher than in 1955. Simultaneously, Austria's iron ore consumption in 1956 was 3,257,900 tons, or 14.8% higher than in 1955.

On the basis of the foregoing figures Austrian domestic consumption of iron ore rose from 3,661,700 tons in 1955 to 4,213,900 tons in 1956.

MECHANIZED COAL MINING BOOSTS PRODUCTION.

Although Austrian coal mining, which is concerned mainly with the extraction of brown coal, is of only secondary importance compared with the big Western European mines, its productive capacity has risen faster. During the four year period covered by the report of the European Coal and Steel Community, coal production in the Community rose by 4 per cent; in Austria it was increased by more than 20 per cent. This is the more remarkable as production in the Austrian mines - especially in those of Styria, which produce the greatest yields - are among the most complicated in all of Europe; the increase in production is due, above all, to extensive mechanization and modernization of mining equipment.

LUMBER EXPORTS STILL MOUNTING. Austrian exports of cut pine increased during February, mainly as a result of mild weather favorable to construction work in the countries which top the list of buyers. A total of 243,882 cubic meters of lumber, as compared with 206,154 cubic meters in January and 205,217 cubic meters in February 1956. The most important purchaser of Austrian lumber in February was Italy, which took 113,053 cubic meters (the figure for Trieste is given separately below). Next in order came West Germany with 63,996 cubic meters, the Netherlands with 20,534 cubic meters and France with 16,374 cubic meters. Other important buyers were Algeria (8,847 cubic meters) and Trieste (5,534 cubic meters).

INTERNATIONAL CRISES A FACTOR IN EXPORTS. A comparison of the above figures with those of the previous year, shows that the principal buyers, i.e. Italy, West Germany and the Netherlands, have increased their purchases. Developments in trade with Hungary, on the other hand, were very unsatisfactory. During the first two months of 1956, 11,884 cubic meters of cut pine lumber were exported to Hungary; a proud total of 68 cubic meters was shipped there in January and February of 1957. A comparable development has marked the lumber trade with the Middle East, whose purchases have fallen off nearly 70 per cent. The Suez crisis is held to be responsible for this decline.

4.5 MILLION TONS OF CRUDE RESIN PRODUCED ANNUALLY. The approximately two million fir trees of Lower Austria produce about 2 kg. of resin per tree and 300,000 Burgenland pine trees average 1.25 kg per tree, yielding a total for Austria of about 4.5 million tons of crude resin annually. About two thirds of the domestic resin production is absorbed by the paper industry and the remainder goes to the chemical and pharmaceutical industries.

IMPROVED TRADE BALANCE IN FARM PRODUCTS.

Exchange of foodstuffs followed a favorable trend for Austria in 1956. In 1955 the deficit in the exchange of foodstuffs amounted to more than 4 billion schillings. In 1956 the deficit was less than 3.5 billion schillings (1 dollar equals approximately 25 schillings - Ed.). This development is due to an increase in exports by 127.8 per cent to a total of 585.4 million schillings, and to a decrease in imports by 6.1 per cent to 4,057 million schillings. In 1955, exports of foodstuffs amounted to only 5.6 per cent of the value of imports; in 1956, the proportion was 12.6 per cent. This rise is due mainly to the pronounced increase in exports of live animals, dairy products, fruit and vegetables. On the import side, there was a decrease in grain purchases, especially wheat. Corn imports were also reduced. As a result of increased domestic consumption, imports of sugar, coffee, cocoa and tea showed an increase.

TEXTILE INDUSTRY BUCKING RISING IMPORTS. Austrian exports of textile products of all types in 1956 represented a value of 1,925.4 million schillings (1 dollar equals approximately 25 schillings - Ed.), a figure which was 294.3 million schillings higher than in 1955. Textile imports rose by a value of 381.5 million to a total of 1,784.9 million schillings, so that the surplus of exports, which in 1955 amounted to 227.7 million schillings, was reduced to 140.5 million schillings in 1956. According to a statement by a representative of the textile industry, it will not be long before the earlier surplus will be transformed into a deficit if the above described trend in foreign textile trade does not shift in the direction of intensified export activities. The increasing volume of imports are making increased export activity absolutely imperative, because each year the sales prospects of the Austrian textile industry on the domestic market are becoming increasingly small.

LINZ NITROGEN WORKS UPS PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS.

The 1956 production of the Austrian Nitrogen Works in Linz was worth 900 million schillings, or about 100 million schillings more than in 1955. Nitrogen fertilizer yield rose from 570,000 tons in 1955 to 606,000 tons in 1956 while the output of sulfuric acid increased from 37,500 to 43,900 tons over the same period. Total sales of nitrogen fertilizer in 1956 included 148,000 tons to the domestic market and 429,000 for export (as compared to 344,000 tons exported in 1955). Shipments to European countries rose from 48.5 per cent to 52.5 per cent. As a result of the recent opening up of the Chinese market, deliveries to Asia jumped from 13.9 to 33.1 per cent, whereas African customers took only 13.1 per cent (34.5 in 1955) and America only 1.3 per cent (3.1 in 1955).

IN AUSTRIA, A \$1,300-A-YEAR MAN CAN AFFORD A CAR.

It is estimated by the Austrian Institute for Economic Research that between now and 1962, Austrians will buy a total of 219,000 automobiles. The actual increase in new buyers will amount to 180,000, which means that the present ownership figure of 190,000 will practically be doubled (95 per cent). As demand is gradually met, the increase will become less each year, falling from 34,000 new cars in 1957 to 22,000 in 1962.

This increase in the number of automobiles is based on the assumption that national income will rise at a rate of 3.5 per cent annually. Although by 1962 Austria will probably not yet have reached the income level of Belgium, France and Switzerland in 1955, it will by that time have caught up to those countries in automobile population. This means that it will have 53, instead of 27, automobiles per 1,000 inhabitants. The reason for this assumption is that Austrians are tending less and less to regard an automobile as non-essential. In other words, consumers are refraining even from buying household articles, etc., in order to be able to afford an automobile. In 1951, persons not engaged in independent professional activity owned only 16.5 per cent of all automobiles. Today, this percentage has risen to 30.4 per cent.

According to estimates by the Institute, a net annual income of 34,000 schillings (or \$1,300) is necessary in order to afford an automobile. This estimate, even if it is somewhat low (and which is somewhat less than the price of a new Volkswagen, although there is a smaller type that costs 25,000 schillings new), provides a certain incentive to purchase cars. Since 245,000 families earn over 34,000 schillings, the Institute, omitting car-owners from its calculations, has reached the conclusion that there are 180,000 potential purchasers of whom an estimated 52 per cent would actually buy a car.

Domestic production on the basis of these potential buyer figures would hardly be profitable. The foreign-currency requirements for automobile imports during the next six years are estimated at 5.5 billion schillings, a sum which will represent a considerable strain on the Austrian balance of trade. The situation on meeting gasoline requirements is also unfavorable, since at least one-third of the amount required will have to be imported. And lastly, in spite of the

15-year program of the Federal Highway Administration, highway construction will be inadequate to cope with the estimated increase in motorization, the more so since funds for the highway program were cut again this year.

NEW "MOPEDS" PUT-PUT OFF ASSEMBLY LINE. The Austrian Lohner Works have retooled to produce a new type of motor scooter, a "Moped," which is just now making its bow on Austrian streets. The scooter will have a one-cylinder, two-stroke engine with a 47-cc. cylinder and 2.2 horsepower. Equipped with a three-gear transmission, the new scooter will make 200 miles to the gallon.

PARKING METERS TO EASE VIENNA TRAFFIC (IT IS HOPED).

As of this fall, parking in Vienna's Inner City will cost money. The law on the erection of parking meters is already being drafted and will, in all probability, be adopted by the City Council. Companies manufacturing meters have already been invited to submit bids. The first of these meters will be set up on Kaerntnerstrasse. The "basic toll" charged will be 1 schilling (about 4 cents) but it has not yet been determined how much parking time this will buy. Experts agree, however, that "strategic" locations should be more expensive than peripheral ones.

TOO LITTLE FRUIT EATEN IN AUSTRIA. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) recently published a study on the consumption of fruit by various countries. Increased supply, together with the realization of the high nutritional value of fruit, has led to a considerable increase in fruit consumption, especially in Europe. Generally speaking, fresh fruit is among the food-stuffs whose consumption rises in proportion to income. However, consumption of fruit in the individual European countries varies considerably, as shown by the following table:

	Yearly Average	
	1950-51 1952-53	1953-54 1955-56
	Kilograms	
	up to	up to
Belgium-Luxembourg	67	80
Italy	61	66
Greece	80	87
Sweden	55	60
West Germany	56	66
France	43	44
Norway	38	40
Austria	49	51
Switzerland	87	85

Thus, compared with other countries, consumption of fruit in Austria is still low.

NEW GRAND HOTEL TO OPEN BEFORE EASTER. According to Vienna newspaper reports the Grand Hotel on Viennas Ringstrasse will be opened before Easter. For the time being, 300 beds will be available for tourists. These accommodations are located in the part of the building which was least damaged by the war and during the post-war period and which was comparatively easy to renovate.

(The hotel was occupied by the Russians for ten years).

AUSTRIAN SUMMER CAMPS, SPECIAL TOURIST FACILITIES OPEN TO AMERICAN STUDENTS

Note: Prices are given in Austrian schillings (26 schillings to the dollar) and include, unless otherwise stated, three or four meals a day. As a rule, they are low if compared to luxury class rates; they do correspond, however, to the popular price range within easy reach of the average Austrian holidaymaker and are, as such, by no means indicative of either second-rate accommodation or food. As in most youth camps, there are usually several beds to a room. Further inquiries should be directed to the Cultural Affairs Branch of the Austrian Consulate General, 31 East 69th Street, New York, Telephone PLaza 5-0652.

FORCHTENSTEIN CASTLE near Neumarkt, Styria, run by the Union of European Federalists. The camp site is a 12th century castle with a lake and a pool nearby. Organized programs; mountaineering and tours. 30 schillings per day.

GMUNDEN on Traunsee (Salzkammergut), Upper Austrian lake country. Water sports, mountaineering. 40 miles to Salzburg. Youth hostel, 39 schillings per day.

SCHLICKER HIGH VALLEY (5,500 ft.), Tyrol, Stubai Range, Mountaineering, Community camp, 35 schillings per day.

BAD WOERSCHACH, Styria, center of the Austrian Glider Association. Gliding, tours, mountain climbing. Hotel accommodation by special arrangement, two to three beds per room, 41 schillings per day.

WAGRAIN, Salzburg (2,740 ft.). Excellent fishing (mountain trout), mountaineering. Swimming pool, cable lift to assist less enthusiastic climbers. Community camp, 29 schillings per day.

KRUMMHOLZ CABIN, Styria (3,000 ft.). Mountaineering. Cabin reached by cable lift. 35 schillings per day.

MUEHLBACH, Salzburg (1,375 ft.). Swimming tennis mountaineering. Cabin. 35 schillings per day.

CITY TRIPS by special arrangement, at attractive rates for students and young people in Vienna, Salzburg, Innsbruck and Graz. Youth hostel accommodation. Expert guides.

TOURS organized by the Austrian Bureau for Student Travel (write to Cultural Affairs, Austrian Consulate New

York, or directly to Vienna 1., Schreyvogelgasse 3); the rates quoted may be subject to correction; they include food and board, railroad and bus fares, tips and normal service charges. Time: between July 8 and September 14.

WALKING TOURS

	Austrian Schillings
Burgenland and Eastern Alps	970
The Upper Austrian Lakes	835
The Styrian Lake District	855
The Low Tauern Range and the Dachstein	770
The Salzburg Alps	800
The North Tyrol Alps	760
The Central Tyrol	810
The Carinthian Lakeland	915

CLIMBING TOURS

Ankogel, Sonblick and Grossglockner	1005
The High Tauern Range	1020
The Silvretta Mountains	1030
The Stubai Alps	1000

CANOE TOURS

Down the Danube to Vienna	985
On the Rivers Inn and Salzach	1210

ROUND TRIPS

Across Austria (From Vorarlberg to Vienna)	1165
Eastern Austria (Salzburg, Upper Austria, Styria, Vienna)	920
Austrian Cities (Innsbruck, Salzburg, Vienna)	1390
Exploring Austria (Off the Beaten Path)	1210

THREE COUNTRIES TOURS

From Innsbruck to Milan (Austria, Italy)	1330
The Southeastern Corner (Austria, Italy, Yugoslavia)	1220
From Munich to Venice (Bavaria, Tyrol, Italy)	1415

EXCURSIONS CENTRES

Salzburg Centre	1190
Innsbruck Centre	1200
Vienna Centre	1205

HOLIDAY CENTRES

Achensee Centre	890
Zell am See Centre	860
Fuschlsee Centre	910

"HOUSE OF TOURISM" IN SALZBURG. Plans have been made to adapt the "Villa Karst," located in the center of Salzburg close to the Mirabell Garden, as a "House of International Tourism." The building will house a permanent business exhibition, an information office to deal with transportation and a central office for the foreign press. The press office for the Salzburg Festivals and the Salzburg Press Club will also have their headquarters in the building.

C.E.A.A. YOUTH MEET IN AUSTRIA. The Congress of European-American Associations will hold an international youth meet at Hintermoos (near Saalfelden, Land Salzburg) from August 11-24.

Speakers will take for their subject "Exploring the United States in Lectures and Discussion" The Delegations of each country attending the gathering will organize folklore evenings.

TOURIST TRADE RESPONSIBLE FOR HARD-CURRENCY INCREASE IN FEBRUARY. Foreign-exchange receipts from the tourist trade are rising steadily. In February, these revenues amounted to approximately 200 million schillings, which was 65 million more than in January and 70 million more than in February 1956. Of this February amount, 55 per cent, or 111 million schillings, originated with German tourists. In February 1955, the proportion of German visitors was only 37 per cent.

SILVER COINS TO COMMEMORATE MARIAZELL JUBILEE.

It has been announced that the Austrian Ministry of Finance will commemorate the jubilee of this Austrian national shrine by issuing a 25-schilling silver coin featuring a picture of the Mariazell basilica. The Austrian Post Office Department is issuing a stamp depicting the Grace Church at Mariazell.

MARIAZELL TO CELEBRATE ITS 800TH ANNIVERSARY.

Three cardinals and more than 20 archbishops and bishops will visit the Austrian national shrine of Mariazell on the occasion of the celebration of its 800th anniversary. The series of brilliant festivities will be opened on May 1 by Cardinal Wendel of Munich, in the presence of Bishop Schoiswohl of Styria. The same day will mark the beginning of festivities which will run until October 15. The highlight of the jubilee will be the "Festival Week" scheduled for September 8-15. During the festive period numerous pilgrimages from Austria and foreign countries will visit "Magna Mater Austriae." To date, 80 special trains have been scheduled to bring the visitors. From August 1-4, Cardinal Feltin of Paris will preside over an international Pax Christi congress at Mariazell.

CULTURE AND SCIENCE

ANNUAL CONGRESS OF THE AUSTRIAN DIVISION OF THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

The Austrian division of the International College of Surgeons recently held its annual congress. As a member of the International College, which has a membership of 15,000, the Austrian membership is taking an active part in developments in modern surgery. In conjunction with the German, Dutch and Swiss members, it is organizing a meeting to be held October 18-20 which will be followed by a symposium on surgery and sports. At the recent meeting, Professor Mandl reported on the "Hall of Fame" established by the organization in Chicago: one room in this building is dedicated to Austria; it is hung with portraits of Austrian surgeons, including Albert, Billroth, Hochenegg, Eiselsberg, and Finsterer.

SUMMER COURSES OF THE AUSTRIAN-AMERICAN SOCIETY IN SALZBURG.

The Austrian-American Society (Vienna I, Stallburggasse 2) is organizing a summer seminar in the "German Language" and "Austrian Art and Music", to be held in Salzburg from July 8 to August 18, 1957. The language courses will be organized in three groups, for beginners, moderately advanced and advanced students. The cultural courses will deal with problems of Austrian art and music. The registration fee of \$10 can be paid to the Austrian-American Society, Vienna I, Stallburggasse 2. Registration closes on June 15, 1957. The cost of the six-week seminar, including room and board, participation in all the courses and in the organized tours, as well as attendance at the Salzburg Festival is US\$180. Applications for scholarships should be made to the Austrian-American Society before May 15, 1957.

FIRST U.S. PERFORMANCE OF ARTUR SCHNABEL QUARTET.

This year's Memorial concert of the Artur Schnabel Society will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 1957 at 8:30 p.m. at the Grace Rainey Roger Auditorium of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. The pianist Rudolf Firkusny and the Kroll Quartet will play works by Mozart and Dvorak. Artur Schnabel's String Quartet No. 3, composed in 1923, will have its first U.S. performance.

ANGELICA MORALES VON SAUER AT NEW YORK TOWN HALL.

Angelica Morales von Sauer, the pianist, widow of the Austrian pianist Emil von Sauer, will be heard at the New York Town Hall on April 12 with a program of Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, Mendelssohn, Ravel, Debussy and Prokofieff.

ALFRED KUBIN SHOW AT VIENNA'S "ALBERTINA."

On the occasion of the forthcoming 80th birthday of the Austrian artist Alfred Kubin (born April 10, 1877), the Graphic Arts Collection of the Vienna "Albertina" has prepared an exhibition of Kubin's works covering some 100 exhibits. The works, dating between 1945 and 1956, have been lent by the artist and have not been previously exhibited. They are typical of the mastercraftman's ability to depict the disasters and fears which beset man and beast. Kubin's art has always reflected the currents of contemporary life and deeply affects viewers with its topical values.

KARAJAN TAKES OVER.

Herbert Karajan, head of the Vienna State Opera, recently returned to Vienna from Milan, where he had presented Verdi's "Falstaff" at LaScala. In accordance with the plan announced several months ago, Karajan will now remain in Vienna until the end of the season late in June. He will personally supervise the rehearsals for the new productions of "Die Walkure" on April 2 and "Othello" on April 15.

PROF. GUETERSLOH AWARDED HONOR RING OF VIENNA.

Professor Paris Guetersloh, the well-known painter, was awarded the Honor Ring of the City of Vienna in commemoration of his seventieth birthday. In his message of thanks for the award, Professor Guetersloh expressed the gratitude of Vienna's artists for the support which they receive from the municipal authorities.

ALPINE SUMMER COURSES IN TYROL.

This year, the University of Innsbruck is again organizing a series of summer courses for Austrians and visitors interested in natural science. The courses, which will be given at Obergurgl (altitude 6,400 ft.), are to be divided into four groups: "Biology of the High Alps," "Alpine Geography, Geology and Agriculture," "Alpine Courses" "Summer Skiing and Mountain-climbing" and "Photography and Cartography."

The scientific courses are under the supervision of professors from the University of Innsbruck; the courses in "Summer Skiing and Mountain-climbing with Skis," "Mountain-climbing and Alpinism" and in "New Ice Climbing Techniques" are under the direction of the head of the Federal Sports House at Obergurgl. Information and application forms are obtainable from the Neue Universitaet (New University), Innsbruck, Tyrol.

ENIT KAUFMAN EXHIBIT IN PHILADELPHIA. Upon invitation of the Carl Schurz Memorial Foundation, Enit Kaufman, the Austro-American painter, will exhibit her recent semi-abstract paintings at the Foundation's Gallery in Philadelphia, 420 Chestnut Street, from April 17 through May 31st. (The artist's collection of "American Portraits", including the portraits of Presidents Hoover, Roosevelt, Truman and Eisenhower, is in the possession of the New York Historical Museum.)

GREAT MOVIE PLANS FOR TONI SAILER. This year, Toni Sailer, holder of three Olympic medals, will make an appearance before the cameras. At the present time the Austrian ski champion is in the United States together with the members of the Austrian national team. He is scheduled to take a leading part in the film "Das Leben ist doch schoen". The picture will go into production on July 1st, 1957. Sailer has also given his approval for two other film projects. In his second movie he will appear with Hans Soehner, and the third will be the story of a young auto racer. In order not to come into conflict with the provisions of the International Ski Association concerning amateur status, Toni Sailer will not appear on skis in any of these movies.

AUSTRIAN SKIERS OUTSTANDING. During the past winter, Austrian skiing achieved the greatest successes in its history. Reports of victories have come in from Switzerland, Poland and the United States. Most of the triumphs were scored by men, the last and most significant of the year being chalked up by Toni Sailer. At Sun Valley, the second home of his friend Christl Pravda, Sailer won the Harriman

Cup with the perfect score of 0. After winning the downhill race, he also won the slalom by four-tenths of a second over Molterer and Pravda, who tied for second place.

The extent to which Austrian skiers dominated the scene last winter is shown by the following tabulation, which covers all races in which members of the Austrian national team or first-team representatives of other nations participated. (Quite frequently ranking national competitors of other countries were defeated by relatively unknown up-and-coming Austrians.)

The statistics cover 58 individual races, including downhill racing, the giant slalom and the slalom. Austrian men skiers won no fewer than 48 of these races, i.e. more than 82 per cent. The broad extent of championship-quality skiing is illustrated by the fact that 16 different skiers won international events. One of these was Toni Spiss, the Austrian team trainer.

By far the most successful skier of the winter season was Toni Sailer, whom many experts had written off after the Olympic Games at Cortina. Sailer won no fewer than eleven races, six of them in the United States. He also won two team races. In terms of total victories, Toni Mark of Saalfelden and Hermann Gamon of Bregenz hold second place. Both of them were successful in five races. Mark won three team events and Gamon two.

In the 40 international races in which they have participated thus far, Austrian women skiers have won 15 times, which includes the triumph of Lotte Blattl in the Arlberg Kandahar. In the lead were Hilde Hofherr, Thea Hochleitner and Liesl Mittermayer, with three first each.

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